

Reedsburg Police Department

Annual Report



2018 Shop with a Cop

2018

Timothy M. Becker
Chief of Police

Mission Statement & Strategic Goals

Mission

The Reedsburg Police Department will provide the highest level of service through the enforcement of laws and the protection of life, property and the constitutional rights of all. We will make a positive impact by meeting the present and future needs of the public through a continued partnership with our community.

Strategic Goals

The following goals are established to support the mission:

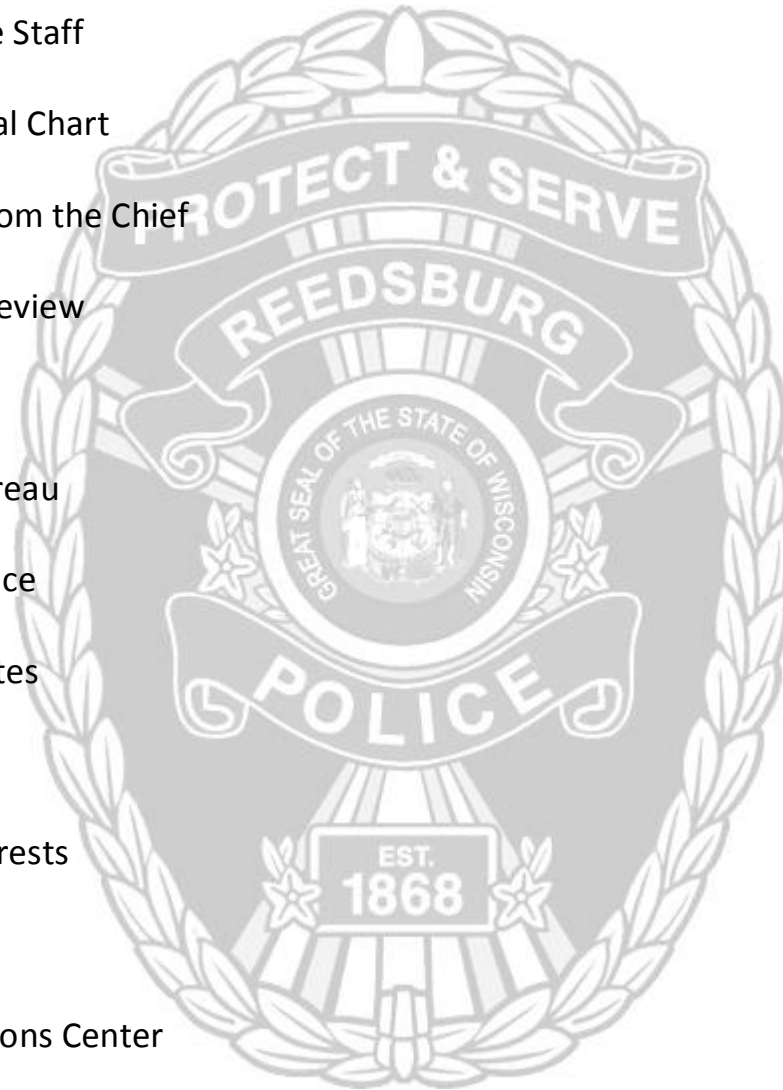
- The Department will seek maximum efficiency in its goal of effectively addressing its basic mission
- The Department will ensure a focused response for identifiable community problems. Emphasis will be to solve problems through education, cooperation, and enforcement of the law
- The Department recognizes that its personnel are the most valuable resource and a conscious effort will be made to fully develop this resource through training and mentoring
- As a means of ensuring that the Department is administered and operates effectively and efficiently, "state of the art" methods and resources will be deployed. This strategic goal will rely on compliance with the published accreditation standards of the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG)

*The Mission and Goals are reviewed annually to provide the most up-to-date, comprehensive service, insuring community satisfaction.



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Sworn Police Staff...

Officer	Primary Assignment	Unit
Chief Timothy M. Becker	Administration	100
Lieutenant Patrick Cummings	Detective Bureau Commander	128
Sergeant Andrew Foesch	A Shift Commander	126
Sergeant Richard Wolf	B Shift Commander	129
Sergeant Mark Eberle	C Shift Commander	137
Sergeant Andrew Stelter	Detective Bureau	127
Detective Jesse Spears	Detective Bureau	136
<i>Officer Peggy Porter (Retired)</i>	<i>Patrol</i>	<i>111</i>
Officer Timothy Knuth	Patrol	130
Officer Summer Karl	SRO/Detective Bureau	134
Officer Martin Pugh	Patrol	135
Officer Jon Schaefer	Patrol	139
Officer Will Botten	Patrol	140
Officer Joshua Hoege	Patrol	142
<i>Officer Jon Schmitz (resigned)</i>	<i>Patrol</i>	<i>143</i>
Officer Joshua Benson	Patrol	144
Officer Samantha Mittlesteadt	SRO/Detective Bureau	146
Officer Jacob Williams	Patrol	147
Officer Kyle Yeager	Patrol	148
Officer Chris Cali	Patrol	149
Officer Marcus Stanley	Patrol	150
Officer Kim Bleske	Patrol	151
Officer Micha Dunse	Patrol	152
Officer Brendan Cutrell	Patrol	153
Kathy Laatsch	Evidence Technician	600

Civilian Police Staff...

Communication Center:

Chris Blood	Supervisor	502
Dori Helm	Civilian Support Specialist	522
Diane Fry	Operator	520
Lynn Petersen	Operator	521
Missy Honer	Operator	527
Dan Meinhardt	Operator	532
Jon Peters	Operator	534

Chaplain:

Pastor Benjamin Seamans	Police Chaplain	701
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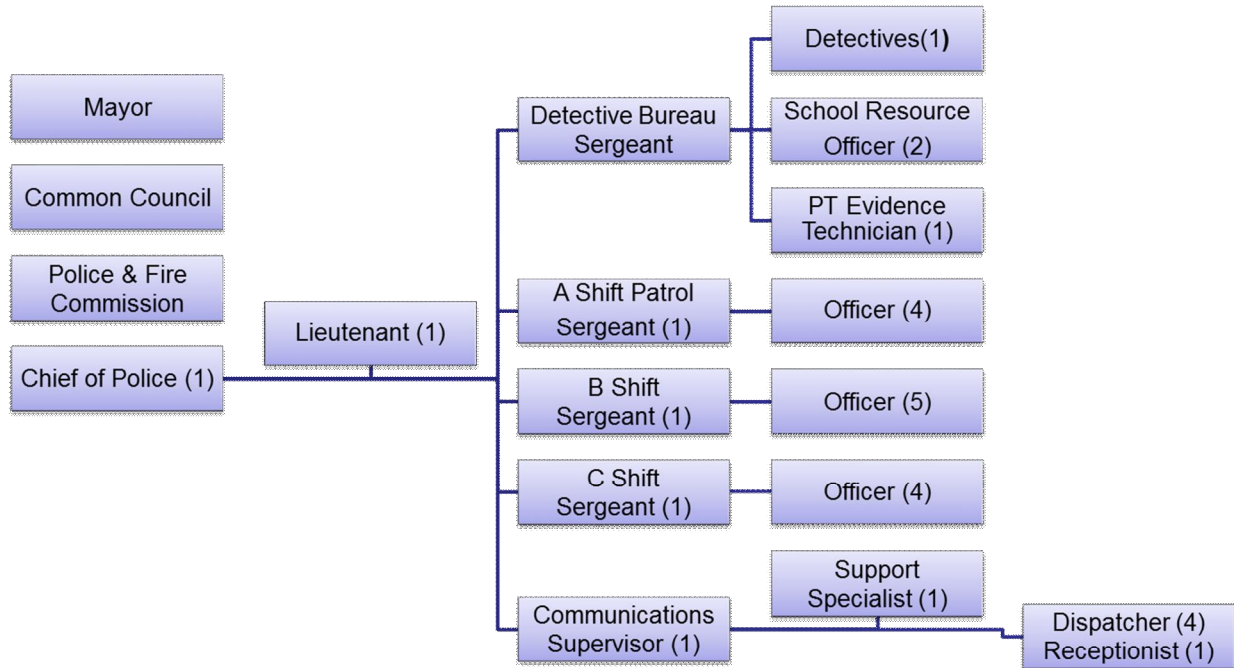


Officer Josh Hoege & K9 Xena



Halloween in City Park

Organizational Chart...



A Message from the Chief...

Honorable David G. Estes,
Mayor of the City of Reedsburg
Members of the Common Council,



On behalf of the men and women of the Reedsburg Police Department, it is an honor to submit to you the 2018 Annual Report of the Reedsburg Police Department.

With 2018 coming to a close, it is important to reflect on our progress and challenges experienced the past year.

As the City continues to grow both in population and geographically, the Police Department continues to receive a high demand for services, logging 16,788 calls for service. The Police Department continues to battle the opioid epidemic that many communities face. Unfortunately, we have also seen an uptick in both the use and production of methamphetamine as well as the use of LSD. We are also seeing an increase in “vaping”, especially with our youth. These highly addictive covert nicotine devices are having an extremely adverse effect on the learning environment at our schools. We are currently keeping a close watch on this recent development.

Another significant challenge of 2018 has been personnel changes. The Department had two experienced officers leave in 2018. Officer Peggy Porter retired from the Reedsburg Police Department with over 28 years of service. Officer Jon Schmitz resigned to accept a position with the Lake Delton Police Department. In addition to those replacements, the School District and the City collectively decided to add an additional School Resource Officer. The Police Department assigned Officer Sami Mittlesteadt to that role. The Department also hired Officer Marcus Stanley, Officer Kim Bleske, Officer Micha Dunse and Officer Brendan Cutrell to fill those vacancies and additions.

The Police Department has been involved in many high-profile cases in 2018. From multiple burglaries to a babysitter committing an atrocious sexual assault to the horrific starvation death of a 16 year old boy. The City also experienced another “100 – Year Flood” about 90 years ahead of schedule. These cases have taxed our small Department but they were handled with the utmost professionalism and I hope the Council is as proud of our officers as I am.

Lastly, the Police Department celebrated its 150th Birthday in 2018. The Police Department was formed by vote on April 13, 1868 as the Village of Reedsburg recognized the need for local law enforcement. From humble beginnings as one single “Police Justice”, the Police Department has grown into a highly respected, professional Police Department with 22 sworn officers and 7 civilians.

I would like to thank the Mayor, the Common Council, and the Police and Fire Commission for their support and I am pleased to present the 2018 Annual Report of the Reedsburg Police Department.

Timothy M. Becker
Chief of Police

The Year in Review...

This is a sampling of the issues faced by the Reedsburg Police Department in 2018:

- Criminal Clearance Rate at 86.25%.
- Calls for Service remained high at 16,788.
- Total activity increased 1.5%.
- Adult and Juvenile arrests decreased 11%.
- Traffic complaints/citations increased 11%.
- Traffic Accidents increased 8%.
- Reedsburg Police arrested 94 drunk drivers in 2018.
- Cleared 100% of all sexual assaults, physical assaults and burglaries.

Patrol Calls by Shift...

A – Shift:



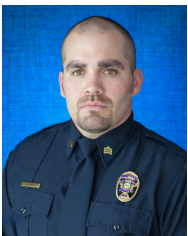
A-Shift, or Dayshift, is commanded by Sgt. Andy Foesch. Sgt. Foesch oversees the patrol officers on this shift as well as the School Resource Officers. A-Shift responded to 6,245 calls for service.

B – Shift:



B-Shift is often the busiest shift and has the most officers assigned to it for that reason. Sgt. Rich Wolf commands the B-Shift. Sgt. Wolf is responsible for supervising the patrol officers. B-Shift responded to 6,704 calls for service.

C-Shift:



Sgt. Mark Eberle commands the C-Shift, which can often be the most volatile of the shifts. C-Shift is often known as night-shift. . In addition to these responsibilities, Sgt. Eberle supervises the patrol officers assigned to his shift. C-Shift responded to 3,839 calls for service.

Detective Bureau...

CROSS POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS POLICE

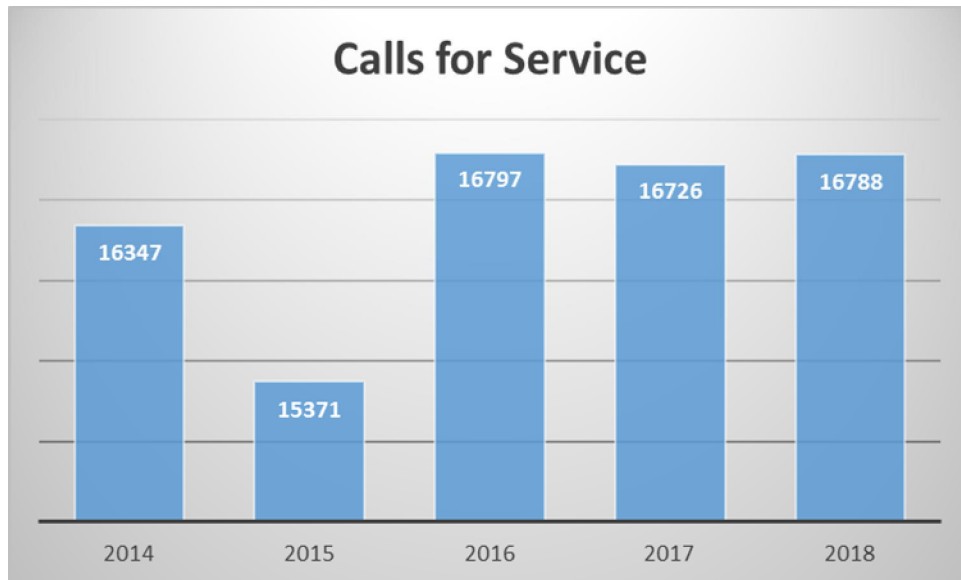


Lt. Patrick Cummings is the second-in-command and supervises all four sergeants and the Evidence Technician. Lt. Cummings also provides investigative support to the Detective Bureau.

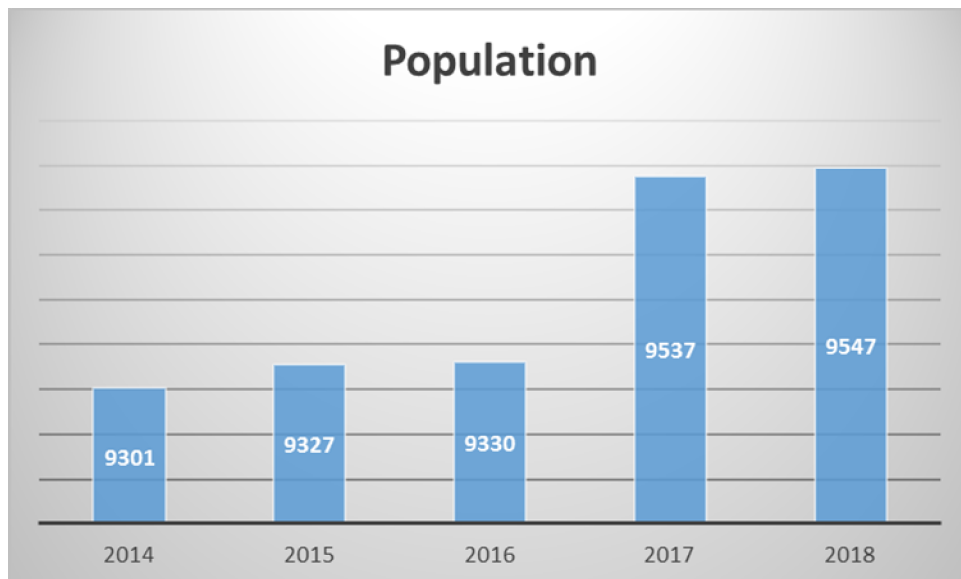


Sgt. Andy Stelter supervises the Detective Bureau in addition to the two School Resource Officers. Sgt. Stelter also carries and investigative caseload. Sgt. Stelter and Det. Jesse Spears are assigned cases that are too lengthy and complex for general patrol officers to handle. Using these investigators frees up patrol to handle “in-progress” calls. In 2018, the Detective Bureau was assigned 464 investigations. These investigations range from petty theft to narcotics to death investigations. Lt. Cummings, Detective Stelter and Detective Spears are active members of the Sauk County Drug Task Force.

Calls for Service...



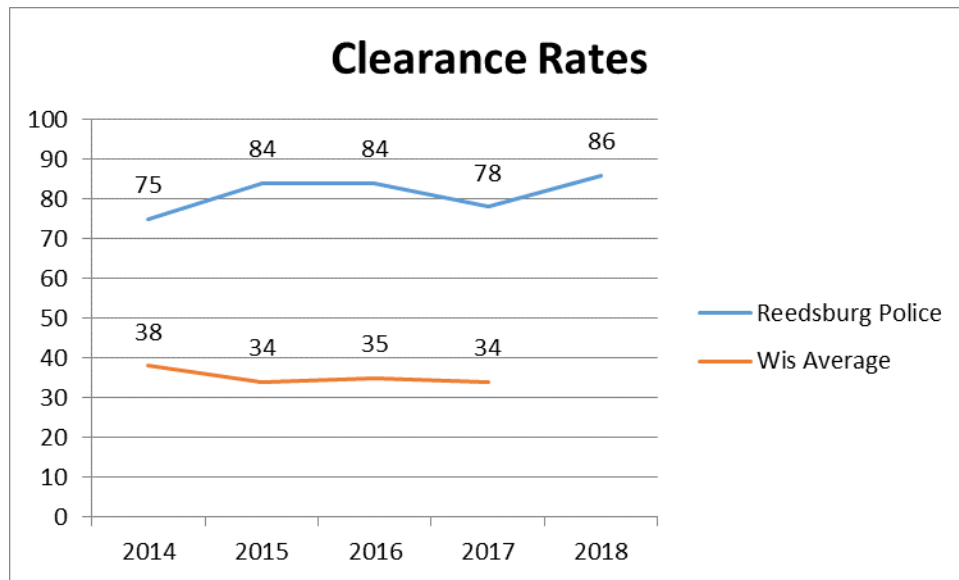
The Police Department realized nearly an identical amount of calls as compared to 2017, with three fewer officers. In 2017, calls for service averaged 983 per sworn position. In 2018, the calls for service averaged 1049 calls per call-taking sworn position.



The City of Reedsburg continues as one of the fastest growing communities in Sauk County. With increased population** comes need for additional law enforcement services.

**US Census estimation.

Clearance Rates...

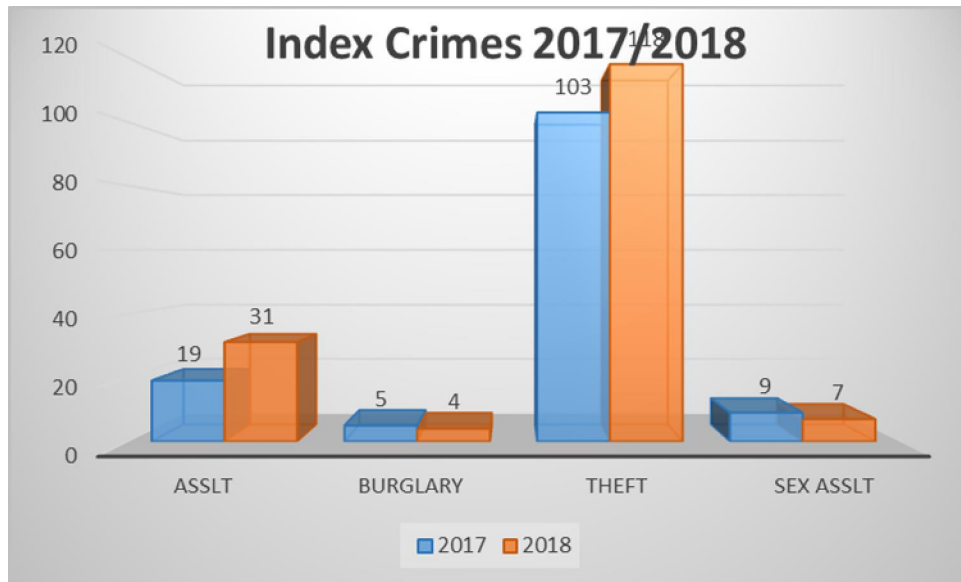


It is often very difficult to prevent all crimes. An important part of law enforcement is holding those committing crimes responsible for their actions. The Reedsburg Police Department is consistently outpacing the Wisconsin average for crime clearances. An illustration of that are our officers solving a very respectable 86% of criminal offenses. This is far above the State of Wisconsin's average clearance rate.

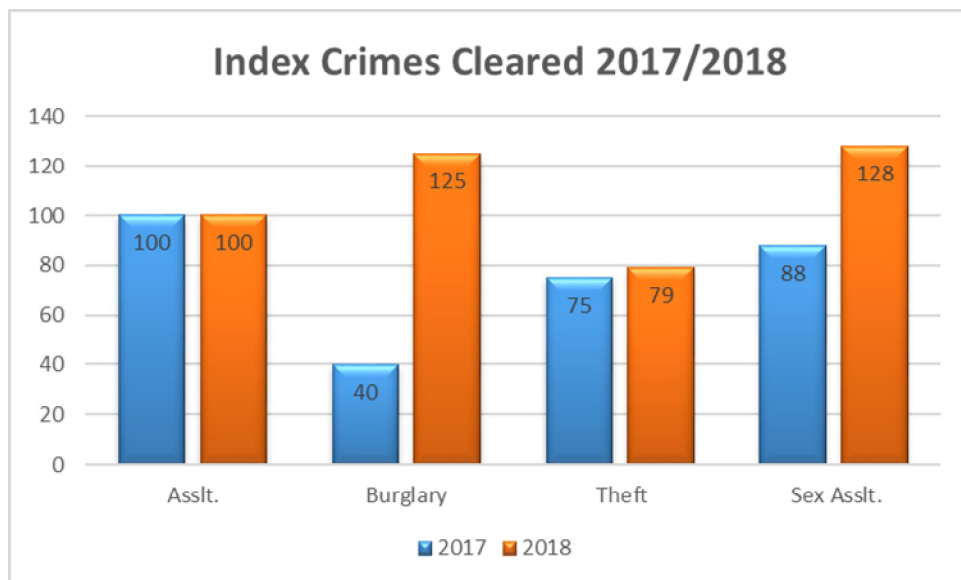


Governor Walker signing the Reedsburg Terroristic Threats legislation into law.

Index Crimes...



Index crimes are described as the most serious of crimes and Reedsburg has had a clearance rate increase in Theft and Sex Assault categories. It is often very difficult to be proactive enough to prevent crime from occurring. As illustrated, the Reedsburg Police Department does hold those criminals accountable for the most serious crimes committed.



Statistics...

Use of Force Incidents:

Date	Time	Charge	Method	History
01/09/2018	15:47	OWI, Resisting, Threats to LEO	Empty Hands	Yes
01/10/2018	00:40	Bail Jump, Resisting	Empty Hands	Yes
03/15/2018	19:33	Threats to LEO, Resisting, DC	Taser	Yes
06/26/2018	00:38	Possession THC, Resisting, DC	Taser	Yes
07/29/2018	16:46	Threats to LEO, Resisting, Discharge Fluids	Empty Hands	No
09/01/2018	23:36	Battery to LEO x 2, Resisting, DC	Taser	Yes
09/25/2018	17:54	DC, Resisting	Empty Hands	Yes
10/02/2018	03:27	DC, Resisting	Empty Hands	Yes
10/21/2018	01:42	Battery to LEO, Discharge Fluids, Resisting	Empty Hands	No
11/03/2018	01:58	Resisting x 2	Empty Hands	Yes

Empty Hands techniques are used to overpower the resistive behavior. Force beyond that was not necessary.

Other Agency Assists:

Reedsburg Police Department has assisted other law enforcement agencies a total of 705 times in 2018 as compared to 514 in 2017. The Police Department is honored to assist outside agencies and frequently requests assistance from those same agencies.

Traffic Enforcement/Accidents:

The Reedsburg Police Department received \$44,000 in grants for equipment and traffic enforcement in 2018.

Overall traffic accidents were up 8%, we had an 8% increase in reportable property damage accidents but injury accidents were down by nearly 14%. Traffic Enforcement has increased 11.5%, primary due to Department of Transportation grants. That tends to explain the Department experiencing a decrease in more serious crashes.

Emergency Detention/Transports:

Emergency detentions are used when a subject is either mentally ill and in need of hospitalization or a subject is incapacitated by alcohol. These cases are normally triaged at Reedsburg Area Medical Center and then it is the Police Department's responsibility to transport them to a specialized hospital. Normally, these transports are made to Madison but occasionally they are made to Winnebago County. These cases not only take several hours to triage, the transports are becoming extremely more time consuming. The transports require the use of two employees to complete safely. The Reedsburg Police Department made 38 transports in 2018.

Communications Center:

The Reedsburg Police Department maintains a 24/7 dispatch and communications center providing dispatch service to police, fire, ambulance, DPW and Utilities. This highly productive unit receives and processes all calls for service and documentation for the Police Department's activities. In addition, the communications personnel also staff the front counter/reception area for the Police Department and is the only 24/7 call center in the City. The Communications Center also issues Wisconsin vehicle registrations as well as processing worthless checks, bicycle licenses, parking citations and open records requests. This is a sample of the activity that occurs in the Communications Center:

Lobby Walk-In Traffic:	5,047 (5,148 off hours)
Telephone Calls:	22,686
Open Records Requests Processed:	639
Wisconsin Registrations Processed:	957

This is all done while dispatching Police (16,788 calls), Fire (263 calls), Ambulance (2,187 calls) and Utilities.

Reedsburg Police



Sesquicentennial Badge

Personnel Changes...

The Reedsburg Police Department line-up had the following changes in 2018:

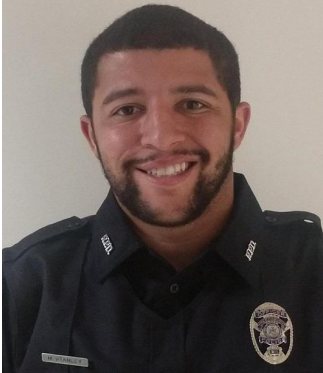


Officer Peggy Porter retired.

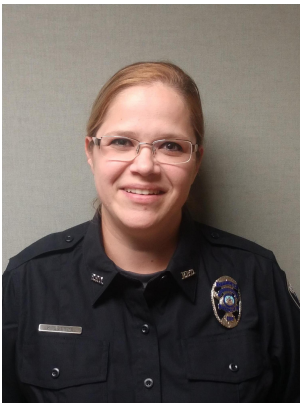


Officer Jon Schmitz resigned.

Personnel Changes...



Officer Marcus Stanley; hired 07/03/2018.



Officer Kim Bleske; hired 08/06/2018



Officer Micha Dunse; hired 10/01/2018

Personnel Changes...



Officer Brendan Cutrell; hired 10/03/2018

Headlines...

Some of the headlines from 2018...

Worker Injured in fall at new Construction

(Reedsburg, WI) A Green Bay man involved in constructing apartment buildings at the Viking Estates Complex was injured when he fell 22-feet from a roof Monday afternoon.

Middle School Student's "Kill-List" results in charges

(Reedsburg, WI) Two Webb Middle School students with a list of other student's names entitled "Kill List" were apprehended by Reedsburg Police after the existence of the list was discovered by Middle School officials.

Wonewoc Woman faces 5th Offense DUI

(Reedsburg, WI) A Wonewoc woman was arrested Tuesday afternoon for 5th Offense DUI after multiple reports of her erratic driving.

Traffic Stop Leads to DUI and Drug Arrest

(Reedsburg, WI) A traffic stop led to a DUI and drug arrest Tuesday afternoon after a driver was found to be under the influence and a passenger was in possession of marijuana.

Kids Playing, Find Human Bones

(Reedsburg, WI) Two Reedsburg children playing in the woods behind Greenwood Cemetery, 1000 Myrtle Street, found human bone fragments Saturday evening.

Natural Gas Line Struck

(Reedsburg, WI) A construction worker accidentally struck an Alliant natural gas line at the Courtyards Mobile Home Community, early Wednesday morning causing localized evacuations.

Reedsburg Woman Arrested for 6th Offense OWI

(Reedsburg, WI) A local woman was taken into custody for OWI 6th Offense late Thursday night after she was operating the wrong way down a one-way street.

Road Construction Crew Severs Gas Main, Nearby Businesses and Homes Evacuated

(Reedsburg, WI) A construction crew working at the intersection of Commercial Avenue and South Dewey Avenue severed a gas main causing the evacuation of several homes and businesses.

Heavy Flooding from Northern Counties Expected to Affect Reedsburg

Heavy flooding from communities to the north of Reedsburg are experiencing heavy rains and flooding that will affect City residents within the next 24 hours.

Man Arrested for Discharging Firearm

A Reedsburg man was taken into custody after he discharged a handgun in the City limits while he was intoxicated.

Police Investigate Death of 15-year old

Reedsburg Police were notified Sunday at approximately 4:00pm of a death of a 15-year old male on Alexander Avenue. The boy's father walked into the Police Department to report the death.

Traffic Stop Leads to OWI, Meth Arrest

(REEDSBURG, WI) A Baraboo man was arrested Monday morning for OWI 3rd Offense and Methamphetamine possession after a drug dog indicated on his vehicle.

Intoxicated Man Arrested for Killing Kitten

(REEDSBURG, WI) A Reedsburg man was arrested Monday night after he allegedly killed a 4 month old kitten by throwing it against a wall.

Intoxicated Man Arrested Carrying Handguns

(REEDSBURG, WI) A Reedsburg man was arrested Sunday night after a handgun fell out of his pocket at a local tavern.

Babysitter Arrested after Reported Sexual Assault

(REEDSBURG, WI) A 17-year-old male babysitter was arrested by Reedsburg Police after he reportedly sexually assaulted the 8-year-old child he was babysitting.